March is a big month in the local book world. Here’s what’s going on:

The Big Read

The Big Read is back in Miami-Dade from March 15-April 15, and this year’s novel is a winner: Jhumpa Lahiri’s haunting The Namesake, about a Bengali family that emigrates to Cambridge, Mass.

Events include a Bhangra dance party, screenings of Mira Nair’s terrific film adaptation as well as other India-themed films, discussions, author presentations and Indian cooking demos and tastings.

The Center for Literature and Theater at Miami Dade College is also soliciting Miami immigrant stories for its blog and possible publication online or in the Miami Herald. For more information, visit www.flcenterlitarts.com.

In Broward

LitLive!, the Broward Public Library Foundation’s free day of author events, is scheduled for 12:30-5 p.m. March 16 at the Alvin Sherman Library, Research and Information Technology Center on the Davie campus of Nova Southeastern University.

Authors include T.D. Allman, Robin Cook, Jane Green, Martha Grimes, John Grogan, John Searles, Dani Shapiro, Karin Slaughter, Brenda Wineapple and others. Visit www.bmpilfoundation.org for a full schedule.

In Boca Raton

The Festival of the Arts Boca, which runs Thursday-March 15 at Mizner Park Cultural Arts Center and the Mizner Park Amphitheater, includes an “Authors & Ideas” program, which will feature Doris Kearns Goodwin, Anna Deavere Smith, James Fallows, Dr. Daniel Levitin, Barbara Schmidt and Geraldine Brooks.

For more information, visit www.festivalboca.com or call 561-368-8445.